THE
Theatrical Observer;
AND
Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—*Othello.*

No. 5926. *Friday, Dec.* 18, 1840. *Price* 1*d.*

"The Play's the thing."—Ask for *Thomas's Observer.*

COVENT GARDEN THEATRE.

A Midsummer Night's Dream was repeated to another good house yesterday evening, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather. *Brother Ben,* and *Two in the Morning,* were the afterpieces.

DRURY LANE THEATRE.

A GRAND scene, embodying the principal features of the satanic music of *Robert le Diable,* has been performed at these Concerts during the week, with considerable effect, and with no little approval by the audience. The evocation of Satan, the sudsequent bursting from the graves by the nuns, and characteristic waltz by the infernals, are points chosen, and as far as breadth and power are concerned, produce an appalling sensation of the awful and inscrutable. It may well be supposed that these scenes, as conceived by Meyerbeer, owe most of their effect to the visible agencies on the stage, where the machinist and scene painter have ample scope for ingenuities and fancies. The quotation of the music without these illustrative adjuncts, is insufficient to yield the full force of the scene, and to exercise the same overwhelming potency on the imagination, but Musard, the arranger of the selection, contrives to heighten the effect of it by semi-darkening the Theatre, by diabolical thunders overhead, and by uniting the nightly components of his orchestra in one fell crash. The solos are magnificently given on that monstre instrument, the ophicleide. This grand and impressive music of Meyerbeer, who is the Fuseli of the romantic school, is among the *chef d'œuvres* of modern art. A selection of the quieter airs from *Robert le Diable,* including the most delicate of morsels, "*Robert toi que J'aime,*" (unquestionably the gem of the Opera,) has been more than once introduced at Promenade Concerts, and the present addition of the more startling portions of it has revived a knowledge of the entire work, worthy of acceptance by all lovers of the lyrical Drama.

HAY-MARKET THEATRE.

Money, My Wife's Mother, and *No Song No Supper,* were played here last evening for the Benefit of Mr. Worrell.

This Evening, will be performed at this Theatre, *Money,* with *Modern Antiques,* and *Bob Short.*

QUEEN'S.—Respecting affairs at this pretty little Theatre we have little to say, further than to observe that it is in a very prosperous condition under the management of Mr. C. J. James. Benefits are in vogue at present. After "boxing night," we anticipate the pleasure of reviewing the new Pantomime, which will be brought forward with more splendour, if possible, than the Christmas production of last year; like the preceding one it is

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written by Mr. Nelson Lee, who has christened the present piece *Harlequin Georgy Porgy ; or, Aunty Paunty's Visits.* Mr. James has been busily engaged for the last eight or ten weeks on the grand Diorama, which will as usual be the principal ingredient. The entire superintendence and production of the Pantomime is entrusted to the skill and talents of that very clever stage-manager Mr. J. Parry, to whose excellent judgment the success of the many spectacles which have been brought out here, is, in a great measure, owing.

A Parboiled Actor.—The Charleston S.C. Mercury, in speaking of a player at the Theatre there, says—" He does not wear his characters like a garment, but they run in his blood, and he is steeped in them from the topmost hair to the extremest toe."

Fashionable Lounges.

To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer.

DEAR MR. EDITOR.—Just wish to say a word—beg pardon, but will you excuse me—I have to mention that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends and the fashionable world at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town :—

Monday, stroll to Madame TUSSAUD's elegant Exhibition, Golden Corinthian Saloon, Baker Street, Portman Square.—Just added to her unrivalled collection the full length figure of that wonderful violinist Paganini ; also splendid figures of Her Majesty the Queen, Prince Albert in his military costume, the group of John Knox reproving Mary Queen of Scots, consisting of Mary, Elizabeth, Henry VIII. Luther, Calvin, and Knox, in magnificent costumes.

On Tuesday, visit the DIORAMA Regent's Park, to see the new and splendid view, *The Shrine of the Nativity at Bethlehem,* painted by M. Renoux, from a sketch made on the spot by David Roberts, Esq., A R.A. and the view of *The Coronation of Queen Victoria* in Westminster Abbey, by M. Bouton. This delightful Exhibition is open every day from ten till half-past four.

Wednesday, pay a visit to the Somerset Gallery, 151, Strand, next door to Somerset House, to see a most wonderful exhibition, *The Industrious Fleas.* They dance, ride, drive a four-in-hand, fight, and in fact do everything in first rate style, exciting the admiration of all present. By the bye, this is Signor Bertolotto's exhibition, that he has been exhibiting for the last eight years.

On Thursday go to the Cosmorama Rooms, 209, Regent Street, to view the new and beautiful views now exhibting here ; they are of the most interesting description, and deserve the patronage they receive,

In my way from the Theatre, drop into the *Harmonic Meeting,* held at EVANS's Grand Hotel, King Street, Covent Garden,—quite delighted with the excellence of the singing, commences every evening at ten o'clock. When Mrs. P. is out of town, stay a week, and only pay a guinea for bed and breakfast. I'm always to be found on Saturday, at half-past five, at the Convivial Dinner held here.

" Why is one of Perring's Beavers like the Queen's first head dress ?"—" Because it is *a Crown* that sits lightly on the head of the wearer—one that will last through tumult and tempest, and though it may *reign* for ever, can never be injured.—Try Perring's Hats not to be equalled for cheapness, lightness, and durability, at 21s. each.—85, Strand.

" All good *spirits* come to my *Beck,*" at his Dr. Johnson's Tavern, Bolt Court, Fleet Street—where you meet excellent company—capital fare at *fair* prices—delightful singing—(commences every evening at a quarter to nine,) cigars, billiards, good beds, and an enticing bill of fare.

Friday, drop into *The Florentine Anatomical Museum,* Margaret Street, Regent Street, to admire the splendid Anatomical Figures of Venus and Adonis, modelled from nature, and as large as life.

Mrs. P. asked me yesterday, " Why is E. C. Pitman's Boot and Shoe *depot,* in New Street, Covent Garden, like Madame's Green Room crowded with females ?" " Because its full of *desirable soles !*"—Went there instantly, quite surprised at the excellent and cheap assortment of new Albert and French Patent Dress Boots—quite a curiosity—must be a customer.

On Saturday, I examine *Miss Linwood's* curious Needle Work, Leicester Square—just added other beautiful specimens of her art.—But I intrude—beg pardon—Your's. &c.—PAUL PRY.

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening, Shakspeare's Comedy (with Music,) called The

Merry Wives of Windsor.

Sir John Falstaff, ... Mr BARTLEY,
Justice Shallow... .....Mr F. MATTHEWS,
Master Slender....Mr C. MATHEWS,
Mr Ford. ....Mr COOPER
Mr Page...Mr DIDDEAR,
Fenton..Mr W. HARRISON, Dr Caius..Mr WIGAN,
Sir Hugh Evans..Mr MEADOWS,
Host of the "Garter,"..... .....Mr GRANBY,
Pistol..Mr W. H. PAYNE,
Nym.....Mr C. J. SMITH,
Bardolph.....Mr AYLIFFE,
Robin.....Miss MARSHALL,
Mrs Ford.....Mrs NISBETT,
Mrs Page.....Madame VESTRIS,
Anne Page.....Miss RAINFORTH,
Mrs Quickly .. Mrs C. JONES.

Previous to the Comedy, the Band will perform the
Overture to .... 'Le Philtre' .... Auber
Leader, Mr. HUGHES.

After which, Sheridan's Dramatic Piece of

THE CRITIC;

Or, A Tragedy Rehearsed.

Sir Fretful Plagiary ..... Mr W. FARREN,
Puff, Mr CHARLES MATHEWS,
Sneer, Mr COOPER, Dangle, Mr HEMMING,
Mrs Dangle, Mrs BROUGHAM,

Characters in the Tragedy,

Don Ferolo Whiskerandos ..... Mr HARLEY,
Earl of Leicester, Mr GRANBY,
Sir Walter Raleigh.....Mr MEADOWS,
Sir Christopher Hatton, Mr BRINDAL,
Governor.....Mr F. MATTHEWS,
Master of the Horse, Mr AYLIFFE,
Lord Burleigh.....Mr C J. SMITH,
Beefeater, Mr W. H. PAYNE,
Tilburina, Mrs ORGER, Confidante, Mrs TAYLEURE
First Niece, Miss LEE, Second Niece, Mrs EMDEN.

To-morrow, A Midsummer Night's Dream, a New Farce, called Brother Ben, and Two in the Morning.

Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

This Evening, a Musical Entertainment, entitled The

Concerts d'Hiver.

Conductor, Mons. MUSARD,

(Last Week of his Present Engagement.)

PROGRAMME.

PART I.

Overture .. Le Lac des Fees .. Auber

Valses .. Die Kosenden .... Lanner

Overture .... Le Serment .. Auber

Quadrille .. I Puritani .. Musard

Overture .. Der Freyschutz .. C.M.VonWeber

Air Varie, Violoncello, Mons. PILET.

GRAND SCENE SATANIQUE, selected from 'Robert le Diable,' .... Meyerbeer

I.— Evocation of Satan. II.—The Dead rise from their Tombs, covered with their Shrouds. III.—Valse of the Infernals.

Arranged by MUSARD.

PART II.

Overture .... Guillaume Tell .... Rossini

Rendezvous de Chasse, New Quadrille, .. Musard Solo, Cornet a Pistons, Herr KOENIG, Solo, Trumpet. Herr MULLER. Solo, Trombone, Mons. DANTONET. Solo, Ophicleide, Mons. PROSPERE.

Concerto Ophicleide, Monsieur PROSPERE.

Cent-Suisse, Quadrille, M.S. .. .. Musard Solo, Cornet a Piston, Herr KOENIG, Solo, Trombone, Mons. DANTONET.

Overture, ... Fra Diavolo .... Auber

Postillon de Mam'ablou, New Quadrille, Musard

Galop .. Camille .. Trumpet Solo, Herr MULLER. .... .. Musard

PRICES OF ADMISSION.

To the Promenade 1s. Dress Circle 2s.6d. Upper Boxes, 1s.6d. Gallery 1s.

Doors Open at Half-past Seven o' Clock, to commence at Eight precisely.

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